

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A reader device comprising:

a reader logic unit connectable to a radio frequency interface and configured to cause the reader device to operate in a reader operation mode ~~wherein the reader device transmits~~ by transmitting interrogation signals to detect and communicate with radio frequency identification transponders and by simulating a radio frequency identification tag to communicate with another radio frequency identification reader;

a transponder logic unit which is connectable to the radio frequency interface, wherein the transponder logic unit is configured to cause the reader device to operate in a ~~transponder operation~~ show communication mode wherein the reader device acts as a passive radio frequency identification transponder; and

a switching unit configured to switch between the reader operation mode when the reader device is powered and the show communication operation mode ~~activate the transponder logic unit~~ when the reader device is not powered.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The reader device according to claim 1, wherein the ~~transponder operation~~ show communication mode is operable independently from a power supply of the reader device and a power supply of a portable device to which the reader device is coupled, and wherein the transponder logic unit is energized by an interrogating signal.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The reader device according to claim 1, wherein the reader device acts as a passive read-only radio frequency identification transponder in the ~~transponder operation~~ show communication mode.
6. (Previously presented) The reader device according to claim 1, wherein the transponder logic unit comprises a transponder memory.
7. (Previously presented) The reader device according to claim 6, wherein the transponder memory is non-volatile.
8. (Previously presented) The reader device according to claim 6, wherein the transponder memory is configurable.
9. (Currently amended) The reader device according to claim 1, wherein the transponder logic unit is coupled through the switch unit to the radio frequency interface, ~~and wherein the switch unit is operable to select between the reader operation mode and the transponder operation mode.~~
10. (Currently amended) The reader device according to claim 1, wherein the reader device operates autonomously in the ~~transponder operation~~ show communication mode during periods of time, within which the reader device is not energized.
11. (Currently amended) The reader device according to claim 1, wherein the radio frequency interface is adapted to provide signals required for operation of the reader device in the reader operation mode and the ~~transponder operation~~ show communication mode.
12. (Previously presented) The reader device according to claim 1, wherein the reader device supports near field communication (ECMA-340) standard, and wherein the reader device is operable with a passive communication mode in the reader operation mode.

13. (Previously presented) The reader device according to claim 12, wherein the reader device is operable with an active communication mode in the reader operation mode.

14 (Previously presented) A portable terminal comprising a reader device according to claim 1.

15-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented) The reader device according to claim 7, wherein the transponder memory is configurable.

22-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) The portable terminal according to claim 14, wherein the portable terminal is enabled to communicate via a public land mobile network.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

causing a reader device to operate, via a reader logic unit, in a reader operation mode ~~wherein the reader device transmits~~ by transmitting interrogation signals to detect and communicate with radio frequency identification transponders and by simulating a radio frequency identification tag to communicate with another radio frequency identification reader;

causing the reader device to operate, via a transponder logic unit, in a ~~transponder operation~~ show communication mode wherein the reader device acts as a passive radio frequency identification transponder; and

~~activating the transponder logic unit~~ switching between the reader operation mode
when the reader device is powered and the show communication mode ~~activate the~~
~~transponder logic unit~~ when the reader device is not powered.

29. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 28, wherein the ~~transponder operation~~ show communication mode is operable independently from a power supply of the reader device and a power supply of a portable device to which the reader device is connected, and wherein the transponder logic unit is energized by an interrogating signal.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 28, further comprising causing the reader device to act as a passive read-only radio frequency identification transponder in the ~~transponder operation~~ show communication mode.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 28, further comprising causing the reader device to operate autonomously in the ~~transponder operation~~ show communication mode during periods of time, within which the reader device is not energized.

34. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 28, further comprising providing signals required for operation of the reader device in the reader operation mode and the ~~transponder operation~~ show communication mode via a common radio frequency interface.

35. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 28, wherein the reader device supports near field communication (ECMA-340) standard, and wherein the reader device is operable with a passive communication mode in the reader operation mode.

36. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 35, wherein the reader device is operable with an active communication mode in the reader operation mode.

37. (Canceled)